# BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

In the Matter of the Application for Certification :

As an Ohio Renewable Energy Resource Generating : Case No. 15-1609-EL-REN

Facility for McGee -Kevin -PA-PV-7.6kW Residence :

#### REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE STAFF OF THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

#### **CASE HISTORY**

On behalf of Kevin McGee (Applicant), SolSystems (Applicant's representative) filed an application for certification of a renewable energy resource facility on September 28, 2015. The name of the facility is McGee -Kevin -PA-PV-7.6kW Residence (Facility), located at 904 Green St. Bridgeport, PA 19405. The Facility is owned by the Applicant.

According to the application, the Facility is a 7.6 kilowatt (kW) roof-mounted solar photovoltaic (SPV) system that was placed in-service on August 25, 2011.

On October 31, 2016, Staff sent the Applicant's representative a question related to the Facility's meter as described in the application. The applicant filed a response on November 19, 2015. The response did not show that the facility's meter meets the utility grade meter requirement. An Attorney Examiner issued an entry dated November 25, 2015, that suspended the automatic approval process for this application. To date, no additional meter information has been provided.

### **STAFF REVIEW**

The Staff's review of applications for certification of a renewable energy resource facility consists primarily, but not exclusively, of three items: (1) the deliverability of the facility's output to the state of Ohio, (2) the resource/ technology used at the facility, and (3) the facility's placed in-service date.

#### 1) Deliverability

Qualified renewable facilities must be located in Ohio, or their output deliverable to Ohio, in order to be eligible.<sup>1</sup> The Ohio Administrative Code (Ohio Admin. Code) provides further guidance on this topic where it defines "deliverable into this state" as the following:

That the electricity originates from a facility within a state contiguous to Ohio. It may also include electricity originating from other locations, pending a demonstration that the electricity could be physically delivered to the state.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Ohio Admin. Code 4901:1-40-01(I)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> R.C. 4928.64(B)(3)

This residential SPV system is located in Pennsylvania and is interconnected with PECO Energy Co. Therefore, Staff concludes that the Facility satisfies the deliverability provision of the statute.

## 2) Resource/Technology

The Facility is a roof-mounted SPV system, with SPV specifically listed in the statutory definition of a renewable energy resource.<sup>3</sup> Staff concludes that the Facility represents a resource or technology that is eligible for certification as a renewable facility under the renewable portfolio standard.

#### 3) Placed In-Service Date

The application indicates that the Facility was placed in-service on August 25, 2011. Staff concludes that the facility satisfies the on or after January 1, 1998, statutory placed in-service requirement.<sup>4</sup>

#### 4) Additional Considerations

- (a) Commission rules require that facilities above 6 kW measure their renewable output with a utility-grade meter in order to be eligible for certification.<sup>5</sup> As the Facility is 7.6 kW, this Commission rule is applicable.
  - The application indicates that the Facility's SPV output would be measured by a Sangamo J4S meter. At this point, Staff has insufficient information to confirm that the facility meter described in the application satisfies this rule requirement.
- (b) The facility must be registered with either M-RETS or PJM EIS' GATS, the two attribute tracking systems currently recognized by the Commission. According to the application, the Facility would be registered with GATS.

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Because the Facility is larger than 6 kW and the Applicant hasn't adequately demonstrated that the Facility satisfies the meter requirements for certification, Staff recommends that the Commission deny this application for certification.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> R.C. 4928.01(A)(37)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> R.C. 4928.64(A)(1)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ohio Admin. Code 4901:1-40-04(D)(1)

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Summary: Staff Review and Recommendation electronically filed by Mark C Bellamy on behalf of PUCO Staff